eliminate hold up of mail at intermediate points. Adequate mail arrangements exist to facilitate quick transmission of mails from the point of origin to destination and early delivery. Regular monitoring of mails is done to ensure that there is no hold up of mails.

Statement—III

I. Steps taken to redress the grievances of public about faulty service of telephones and late delivery of telegrams

In addition to the full-fledged complaint organisations already existing, public grievance cells with single window clearance concept have been set-up in all telecommunication circles, metro and major telephone districts. w.e.f. 1-5-85 to look and redress the grievances of the public.

II. Non-Delivery, delayed and irregular delivery of mails

Whenever any complaint is received on non or delayed and irregular delivery of mails, immediate enquiries are made and remedial steps are taken to avoid recurrence.

III. Disconnection of telephones

Disconnection of telephones even after payment by subscribers, generally occurs when payments are made after the due date prescribed, and during the time lag it takes for the particulars of payments to reach the concerned TRA section and in some stray cases due to clerial errors. Units have already been directed to examine each case of disconnection despite payment critically and take action against the officials at fault when such irregular disconnections occur. Telephones are also restored without any re-connection fee in such cases.

Setting up of holding Companies for Public Undertakings

2147. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering setting up of a few holding companies for each group of Public Undertakings; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No final decision has been taken so far in this mater.

(b) Does not arise.

Power generated in the Country

2148. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantum of power generated in our country and what is the actual quantum of power required for all the sectors;

(b) whether Government are giving new licences for manufacturing generators to meet the power crisis in the country; and

(c) if so, whether there are any limitations fixed by Government for manufacturing power generators?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The power availability during the period April, 1985 to February, 1986 was 142,726 million units as against the requirement of about 155,198 million units.

(b) and (c) Generating units upto 60 MW capacity can be manufactured both in public and private sectors. Manufacture of generators of higher range are reserved for public sector. The present manufacturing capacity

of generators is adequate to meet the demand.

Oil wells lying idle

2149. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names and number of Oil wells which are lying idle in the country at present;

(b) since when they are lying idle;

(c) whether Government propose to take any foreign help for the commissioning of those wells so as to increase the oil production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Gassification of coal

2150. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to develop latest technology for gassification of coal in a manner which is cheap and suitable for our country?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. is putting up a 100 tonnes per day fixed bed coal gassification plant at their works at Trichy for using the coal gas for power generation by combined cycle mode. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. is also setting up a fluidised bed coal gassification plant of 18 tonnes per day capacity at Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad.

Samples of Indian coals are being tested for their suitability for coal gassification.

2151. [*Transferred to the 19th March 1986*].

Shortage of electricity in Orissa

2152. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to shortage of electricity in Orissa, various industries, rural electrification programme and lift irrigation have been seriously affected and there is a sense of dis-satisfaction among the people;

(b) whether Government propose to send a Central team to study the situation and suggest remedial measures; and

(c) whether in view of low generation of electricity, Government propose to consider to establish Super Thermal Power Plant at the Talcher in order to meet such shortage of electricity during the Seventh Five Year Plan considering the backwardness of Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The power shortage in Orissa during April, 1985 to February, 1986 was about 18.4 per cent. The continued power shortage has mainly affected heavy and power intensive industries. Restrictions have also been imposed on power supply to other industries, rural supply and lift pumps.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Central Electricity Authority has accorded techno-economic approval to the proposal of National Thermal Power Corporation to implement the Talcher super thermal power project (Stage-I, 2x500 MW) in Orissa. The implementation schedule can be determined after availability of financial resources has been tied-up.